

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF DR. FRANCINE L. BROADOUS  
OPUTA

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the extraordinary life and enduring legacy of Dr. Francine L. Broadous Oputa. Her journey, characterized by unwavering faith, an insatiable thirst for knowledge, and an unyielding dedication to her community, stands as an inspirational testament to the profound impact of a life devoted to service.

Born on May 31, 1953, in San Fernando, California, Dr. Francine's life unfolded as a tapestry interwoven with threads of faith, education, and community service. She was the youngest among eleven siblings, born to Pastor/Dr. Hillery Talbert and Mother Rosa Lee (Cox-Thompson) Broadous. Her spiritual roots were firmly planted at Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, founded by her own father, where her passion for performance first took root. Francine's thirst for knowledge knew no bounds. Her academic journey led her through several distinguished institutions, including Long Beach State, Stanislaus State, UC Davis, and Fresno State. Her unwavering pursuit of excellence culminated in a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership. Throughout her academic odyssey, she not only enriched her own mind but also ignited the flames of aspiration in countless young hearts within her community.

In the autumn of 1976, fate brought Francine and Henry Ifeanyi-Chukwu Oputa together at Stanislaus State in Turlock, California. Their love story blossomed, and on August 20, 1977, they embarked on a 46-year-long adventure as husband and wife. Their journey led them to Fresno, where they would establish their family and leave a lasting mark on the community. Faith played a pivotal role in their lives, inspiring the founding of The Way Ministries John . . . 14:6 in November 1989. Their dedication to the community materialized in the establishment of the Saturday Cultural School and the creation of a lasting tribute, the "When I think of Home" mural, which stands as a testament to their unwavering commitment to West Fresno.

Francine's career spanned 30 impactful years at Fresno State, where she held the esteemed position of Director of the Cross Cultural and Gender Center (CCGC). Her dedication to diversity, cultural competency, and support for students, faculty, and staff was evident through her tireless efforts and the programs she championed, including the Central Valley Cultural Heritage Institute and the Women's Resource Center. Upon retiring from the university in 2020, Francine founded Oputa & Associates, a successful consulting firm that drew from her decades of experience in performing, inspirational speaking, and diversity, equity, and inclusion training. As CEO, she

continued her mission of making a positive impact on a nationwide scale.

Dr. Francine L. Broadous Oputa's life exemplified the values of faith, education, and community service. Her legacy will continue to inspire generations, a testament to the transformative power of a life well-lived. Her contributions to her community, her unwavering commitment to education, and her boundless faith will forever be etched in our hearts.

Francine was preceded in death by her parents, Pastor/Dr. Hillery Talbert and Mother Rosa Lee (Cox-Thompson) Broadous, as well as six siblings. She is survived by her husband, Rev./Dr. Henry Ifeanyi-Chukwu Oputa, her three children—Chunyendu "CeCe" N. Oputa, I Adeficha Oputa, and Nwachukwu N. Oputa, and several siblings. Her memory will forever be cherished by her family, her community, and all those whose lives she touched.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in commemorating this significant moment in the life of Dr. Francine L. Broadous Oputa, a woman whose contributions have left an indelible mark on the hearts and souls of many.

HONORING DON AND DEBRA LUKE

### HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Don and Debra Luke for their dedication and commitment to Arizona and their support for organizations and candidates that uphold the principles and values that have made Arizona and our nation great.

The Luke family has deep roots in Arizona. In 1873, Frank Luke moved to Phoenix, Arizona. Frank married Otilia and had 9 children. One of their children, Frank Luke, Jr. was a leading ace in WWI. Luke Air Force Base, just west of Phoenix, is named after him. Frank and Otilia's youngest son, Bill Luke was the founder of Bill Luke Chrysler-Plymouth and was the head of the automobile dealership until he passed away. Don Luke, Bill and Dorothy Luke's son, started working in the family business at the age of 13, progressed up the ladder, and is now President and CEO of Bill Luke Dealerships. Don and Debra have three sons.

Don and Debra Luke are great people. I have found them to be very friendly and sincere. They are so easy to talk with and we share many values together. Don and Debra really care about our community, state, and nation. I wish we had more people like Don and Debra Luke. They are truly great Americans.

May their values and legacy live on for generations.

HONORING NORTHERN MICHIGAN  
CHILDREN'S ASSESSMENT CEN-  
TER ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Northern Michigan Children's Assessment Center on 10 years of dedicated service to the community. Northern Michigan Children's Assessment Center (NMCAC) provides services for abused children in areas all across the region, including Crawford, Iosco, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, and Roscommon counties. Since 2014, NMCAC has been a compassionate voice for those most vulnerable in our society. Under the leadership of Executive Director and Founder Rebecca Yuncker, NMCAC has transformed from a one-person operation into one of the greatest advocacy organizations in the state, offering counseling, advocacy, forensic interviewing and medical services for both children and adults. With locations in both Tawas City and Roscommon, this diverse group of professionals have dedicated their lives to the noble undertaking of improving the lives of those who desperately need it most. They are a great example of servant leadership and I'm grateful for their selfless devotion to this cause. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Northern Michigan Children's Assessment Center on 10 years of dedicated service to our communities and state.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN WINKLER

### HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Brian Winkler for his 40 years of dedicated service to our community in Eastern Washington and to the United States of America. Following in the footsteps of his father, a decorated World War II veteran, Brian served as a U.S. Navy Seabee for 15 years and dedicated his life to upholding their motto of "We Build, We Fight, Can Do."

Brian's "Can Do" spirit and commitment to service did not stop there. For the past 25 years, he has tirelessly devoted himself to helping veterans, their families, and his community. Among his many remarkable achievements, Mr. Winkler spearheaded the construction and donation of a water park that has provided joy to generations of young children in our region. Moreover, he has generously shared his time, expertise, and resources with the Salvation Army, City Gate, and numerous other local charities.

To this day, Mr. Winkler maintains a "Seabee" float that he built which he showcases at

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

parades and veterans events across Eastern Washington. He has also used his business to create employment opportunities for more than 200 individuals in Washington's Fifth Congressional District, significantly improving the lives of families in his community.

In addition to his extensive community work, Mr. Winkler has been an unwavering advocate for veterans from every branch of the military. He has extended his support to organizations such as the Seabee Veterans of America, Spokane Veterans Home, Navy League of the United States, Honor Point Military Aerospace Museum, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Spokane chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America, the United States Marine Corps League, and many more.

Mr. Winkler is a selfless individual who represents everything that is good in the United States of America. His unyielding desire to give back to his community, as well as his enduring commitment to our country and veterans who selflessly served it, are a testament to his profound dedication to helping others. His continued contributions will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on the lives of so many, and I know I speak for everyone in Eastern Washington when I say our community is a better place due to his "Can Do" efforts to help others.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Brian Winkler for his tremendous contributions to Eastern Washington and thanking him for his dedicated service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING A LIFETIME OF SERVICE BY DUMFRIES NATIVE TISHA LEWIS

**HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Tisha Lewis for her dedication to her hometown of Dumfries, Virginia and the surrounding community.

Tisha Lewis was born and raised in Dumfries, Virginia and attended Montclair Elementary School, Saunders Middle School, and Hylton High School. After earning a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from Virginia Tech, Ms. Lewis successfully pursued a career in journalism, working at television stations across the country in New York City, Bakersfield, California, Miami, Florida, and Indianapolis, Indiana. Ms. Lewis has reported on top national stories and interviewed notable figures, such as former President Bill Clinton, former Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Reverend Jesse Jackson, and former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger.

In 2015, the Dumfries community excitedly welcomed her back home to Virginia when she started as an anchor on FOX 5 DC. Since then, the community has been proud to watch her on screen and grateful for her many contributions to Dumfries and communities across Virginia. Ms. Lewis co-founded Sisters Peak, a youth mentorship program that empowers young girls in the community to rise to their full potential. In 2023, she received the President's Volunteer Service Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her outstanding service to her community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Ms. Tisha Lewis for her leadership and compassion, as well as being honored with the Town of Dumfries' 2024 Hometown Hero Award. This remarkable achievement is a testament to her unwavering dedication and her deep commitment to her hometown.

VETERANS GROUP TO DOJ: IMPANEL GRAND JURY, INDICT BLINKEN

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD the following press release from Veterans For Peace, brought to my attention by Jim Brasile, a constituent and leader of a local chapter of Veterans For Peace who cares passionately about the situation in Gaza. While I may have a difference in opinion with some of the content, I feel that in a democracy, it is important to consider a variety of viewpoints. Mr. Brasile witnessed the violence of war first-hand when he served in Vietnam as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps. Since then, he has been a steadfast advocate against conflict and for non-aggression. I thank Mr. Brasile for his service to our country and commend him for his commitment to peace.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE OFFICIALS CALL HIM OUT FOR LYING TO CONGRESS

A national veterans' organization today called for a grand jury to indict Department of State (DOS) Secretary Antony Blinken and the U.S. Ambassador to Israel for lying to Congress, violating the Export Control Act, the Genocide Prevention Act and the U.S. War Crimes Act.

In a letter to the U.S. Department of Justice, Veterans For Peace (VFP) cited published reports showing that internal DOS emails and the statements of two senior State Department officials showed Blinken lied when he issued his "Report to Congress" stating, "... we do not currently assess that the Israeli government is prohibiting or otherwise restricting the transport or delivery of U.S. humanitarian assistance." (p. 32)

ProPublica revealed a series of State Department emails, internal memos, and meeting notes in which officials agreed Israel was blocking humanitarian aid which should trigger Section 6201 of the Foreign Assistance Act which prohibits weapons shipments to any country the President has been told is blocking humanitarian aid.

In addition to the internal documents ProPublica included, from previous reports, that Samantha Power, Director of USAID and Stacy Gilbert, a former USAID bureau head had both voiced objections to Blinken's findings as the report was being prepared.

Power stated that the looming famine in Gaza was the result of Israel's "arbitrary denial, restriction, and impediments of U.S. humanitarian assistance" and called it "one of the worst humanitarian catastrophes in the world."

Gilbert, former senior civil military adviser in USAID's refugees bureau, resigned in May after the DOS "Report to Congress" was released. She said then, "There is abundant evidence showing Israel is responsible for blocking aid. To deny this is absurd and shameful. That report and its flagrant untruths will haunt us."

VFP human rights counsel Terry Lodge said, "The Israeli military continues detonating massive bombs in southern Beirut—bombs they would not possess but for Antony Blinken's repeated violations of federal laws aimed at halting human rights and war crimes violations. Members of the Biden administration unwilling to rein in Israel and furthering its genocide in Gaza need to go to jail."

VFP President Susan Schnall stated, "Just last week, the U.S. gave Israel another \$8.7 billion in weapons to kill and wound innocent Palestinians—in addition to the \$3.8 billion we give them every year. This 'Genocide Tax' is a theft from millions of Americans who have none of the health insurance every Israeli enjoys; from millions of Americans living in horrific housing while Israel builds thousands of upscale homes on land stolen from Palestinians; from millions of young Americans can't afford college because America's top priorities are weapons and death, not human needs."

VFP's letter seeking an indictment of Blinken follows one to the DOS Inspector-General February 9, 2024, alleging that Blinken and DOS officials had already violated a series of existing U.S. laws and international treaties by transferring arms to Israel, by quoting a sworn declaration from Josh Paul, Mr. Paul, former Director of Congressional and Public Affairs in the State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, attested to significant failures by the Department in a declaration filed in the Defense for Children International—Palestine lawsuit.

VFP's February letter was never responded to nor acknowledged.

ProPublica also reported that:

The head of the State Department's Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration had determined that Israel was blocking humanitarian aid and that the Foreign Assistance Act should be triggered to freeze almost \$830 million in taxpayer dollars earmarked for weapons and bombs to Israel,

DOS Deputy Assistant Secretary, Mira Resnick, and the DOS acting legal adviser, Richard Visek, pressured that bureau and others to agree that Israel was not withholding U.S. humanitarian aid.

Veterans For Peace has one hundred chapters in the U.S. Since 1985 VFP has exposed the true cost of war and advocated to abolish war as an instrument of national policy.

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF CHRIS QUIRE

**HON. JAMES COMER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Chris Quire of Franklin County for being named Kentucky Sheriff's Association Sheriff of the Year in recognition of his 25 years of dedicated service in law enforcement.

Sheriff Quire has risen through the ranks from parking citation officer to Captain before being elected Sheriff in 2018. His time as Sheriff has been defined by ensuring the safety of the people of Franklin County. Under his leadership, the Franklin County Sheriff's office was able to fully staff each school in the county with a School Resource Officer.

Sheriff Quire has earned the respect and support of Franklin County due to his ability to foster strong relationships and his commitment to the well-being of the community.

Sheriff Quire's many years of service to Franklin County make him the perfect choice for Kentucky's Sheriff of the Year. I am confident that Sheriff Quire will continue to serve as an exemplary role model for law enforcement officers across the 1st Congressional District and the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky.

HONORING THE INVESTITURE OF  
DR. STANFORD E. ANGION AS  
THE 25TH PRESIDENT OF SELMA  
UNIVERSITY

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Inaugural Convocation and Investiture of Dr. Stanford E. Angion as the 25th President of Selma University.

A lifelong learner, Dr. Angion obtained his Bachelor of Soil Science at Alabama A&M University. He went on to earn multiple post-graduate degrees, including a Master's of Journalism and Mass Communication from Marshall University in Huntington, WV, a Master's of Education from the University of West Alabama, a Master's of Arts in Bible and Pastoral Ministry from Selma University, and a Doctor of Education from Alabama State University.

An esteemed educator and administrator, Dr. Angion began his tenure at Selma University in 2016 as the Vice President for Academic Affairs. During this period, he oversaw the responsibilities of administering the development, implementation, and evaluation of course materials and methods, along with recruiting faculty and supervising the Chairs of all academic divisions. Moreover, he played a critical role in decision-making regarding the testing placement of new students, admissions, student-faculty relations, academic counseling, college catalogs, and student academic records. His diligence and hard work were recognized in June 2020 when he was assigned to the position of Provost/Vice President, a capacity in which he served until he was appointed as Interim President in 2021.

Dr. Angion began his professional life in 1987 when, upon graduating from Alabama A&M University, he received an active-duty commission into the United States Army as a Second Lieutenant. During his thirteen years of honorable service, he attained the rank of Major. In October 2000, Dr. Angion accepted his call into the gospel ministry to preach and was honorably discharged from the Army.

After accepting his anointed call, Dr. Angion was licensed as a Baptist preacher in March 2000 and ordained later that year. He served for two years at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Hinesville, GA, as a Youth Pastor before being installed in 2003 as Pastor of Mt. Gilead Missionary Baptist Church in Coy, AL, where he still serves today.

As pastor of Mt. Gilead Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Angion has implemented programs and completed projects to uplift his congregation and the greater community. Under his leadership, the congregation built a Family Recreational Park, renovated the sanctuary, and started the MGS&A Institute, which offers a plethora of courses designed to train

students in the performing arts and enhance elementary and secondary student learning.

Dr. Angion is a proud member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity incorporated and is an active member of the Alpha Eta Sigma Chapter in Montgomery. He joined the fraternity during his sophomore year at Alabama A&M University as a member of the Gamma Epsilon Chapter.

Under his strong and level-headed leadership, Selma University is planning for both today and tomorrow. Dr. Angion's transformational vision is building a framework for the university that will create lasting change and growth. Continuing the core mission of Selma University, Dr. Angion is dedicated to the quality of education the university provides to its students. Through his insightful planning and forward-thinking, Dr. Angion is taking strides to create a better and brighter future for Selma University.

On a personal note, I have long admired President Angion's steadfast leadership at Selma University. He has demonstrated a strong commitment to upholding the standard of excellence for its students, faculty and administration, even in the face of major adversity. I congratulate him. I look forward to our continued partnership in uplifting this historic institution and extend my best wishes for his long and successful stewardship of Selma University.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the investiture of Dr. Stanford E. Angion as the 25th President of Selma University.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROSE  
MARIE HANSEN

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of longtime Concord resident Rose Marie Hansen.

Rose Marie was born in Kansas, where she spent many of her formative years working on the family farm with her father and brother. She eventually moved to Oakland, California where she worked as a nanny. Shortly after, Rose Marie met her husband Alfred "Bud" Hansen at a dance in Alameda. The two married in 1941 and were together for 52 years until Bud's passing in 1993.

She and her husband owned a contracting business and later partnered with a local businessman to open a bowling alley and retail complex, known today as Clayton Fair Properties. When Bud passed away in the early 90s, Rose Marie took over as manager, a position she held until 2023, helping lead the successful business for more than sixty years.

Rose Marie was also very active in her community, volunteering at Concord's First Presbyterian Church where she served as an accountant, Deacon, and Elder. She also volunteered at The American Cancer Society as their coordinator of transportation for over 21 years, served as President of the Concord Diablo Historical Society for over 7 years, and traveled the world as International President of the USA Inner Wheel Association. On top of it all, she was also Vice President for the Con-

cord Homes Board of Directors, overseeing the development of two multi-story residential buildings for seniors.

Rose Marie will be greatly missed, but I am confident her impact will be felt in the community for generations to come. Please join me in recognizing Rose Marie for her many contributions to our community and devoted service to the City of Concord.

COMMEMORATING THE PASSAGE  
OF THE 2024 U.S. CAPITOL  
CHRISTMAS TREE THROUGH  
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

**HON. JIM BANKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the passage of the 2024 U.S. Capitol Christmas tree through Fort Wayne, Indiana.

From its origins in Alaska's National Forests to its final destination in Washington D.C., this distinguished tree has traveled through many of North America's beautiful landscapes. It has visited small-town main streets, grand state capitals, elementary schools, and local businesses. And now, it has passed through Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Situated in the heart and crossroads of America, Fort Wayne introduces the tree to a vibrant community that exemplifies Midwestern values, patriotism, and the true essence of Christmas. Each Christmas season, this city's festive spirit is reborn through longstanding traditions that celebrate togetherness, generosity, and faith.

The Capitol Christmas Tree has been affectionately dubbed "The People's Tree," and this journey it undertakes truly cements it as such. While the tree may not see, hear, or remember the communities it encounters, the people of Fort Wayne will long recall the honor of hosting a symbol that will stand proudly before the U.S. Capitol, embodying all that makes Christmas in America so special.

I thank Mike Nutter and the TinCaps organization for hosting the tree at Parkview Field, allowing Northeast Indiana to enjoy the occasion.

HONORING THE USDA'S CENTEN-  
NIAL GRAPEVINE BREEDING  
PROGRAM

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today we gather to celebrate an extraordinary milestone in American agricultural history, an occasion of profound significance—the 100th anniversary of the USDA Grapevine Breeding Research Program. This monumental event offers a unique opportunity to reflect upon a century of innovation, dedication, and visionary research that has shaped the grape industry in the United States.

The story of the USDA Grapevine Breeding Research Program commenced in 1923 within the fertile soils of Fresno, California. Founded

at the USDA Experiment Vineyard, it became an integral part of the USDA Bureau of Plant Industry. Its mission was clear—to redefine the grape industry through groundbreaking research.

In 1972, the program found a new home within the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the USDA's premier in-house research agency. Throughout its remarkable journey, the program remained unwavering in its commitment to developing high-quality, disease-resistant cultivars of *Vitis*, spanning table grapes and raisins.

The San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Sciences Center (SJVASC) has been the hub of innovation for this program. Its dedicated researchers have consistently led the charge in scientific advancements within the field of grape breeding. Their efforts have not only met the demands of U.S. agriculture but have also supplied top-tier, nutritious fruits to both national and international markets.

As we convene to mark this momentous centenary, we acknowledge the program's profound influence. For one hundred years, it has been a pillar of grape production and innovation, perfectly situated in the heart of American grape cultivation, the Central Valley of California.

The 100th anniversary ceremony is not merely retrospective; it is a glimpse into the future. Their collective wisdom and vision will chart the course of grapevine breeding in the years to come. This anniversary of the USDA Grapevine Breeding Research Program is a momentous occasion that deserves our highest regard. It celebrates a century of scientific excellence, unwavering dedication, and the pursuit of a resilient and prosperous grape industry.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the USDA's grapevine breeding research program. Let us come together to honor a century of dedication to the growth and prosperity of American agriculture.

IN MEMORY OF SHERIFF HENRY  
CULLEN TALTON, JR.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor and remember a loving husband and father, doting grandfather and great-grandfather, lifelong public servant, the longest tenured sheriff in the United States of America, and my friend of long standing, the Honorable Henry Cullen Talton, Jr. Sadly, he transitioned from labor to reward on Saturday, October 19, 2024. The funeral service honoring and celebrating Sheriff Talton's life will be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at Southside Baptist Church in Warner Robins, Georgia.

Sheriff Talton was born to the union of Henry Cullen Talton, Sr. and Lois Ammons Talton on October 16, 1932, in Bonaire, Georgia. Early on in his adult life Sheriff Talton began his career as a middle Georgia dairy farmer before making a successful run for the Houston County Commission. In 1972, he won his first term as Sheriff of Houston County,

and he would go on to win 12 additional successive terms in his lifetime. For nearly 52 years, Sheriff Talton served as Houston's top law enforcement officer, and he became nationally known as America's longest-tenured sheriff.

Rarely seen wearing his sheriff's badge or his firearm, Sheriff Talton was truly a man of the people. His commitment to fostering public safety and building relationships with the people he served earned him the respect and admiration of both the people of Houston County and the Georgia law enforcement community. Sheriff Talton presided over the Houston County Sheriff's Department during a period of substantial population growth in the county. Throughout his tenure, Sheriff Talton made sure his department was responsive, effective, and on the cutting edge of law enforcement. At the time of his election as sheriff in 1972, Houston County was home to about 63,000 people; today, the county is home to nearly 170,000 people.

As Sheriff, Talton made a point to engage with and collaborate with leaders from across the state in order to improve public safety for all. He actively contributed to various organizations, including serving on the Board of Directors for the Georgia Sheriffs' Association and the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes where he received special recognitions multiple times for his fundraising initiatives. Throughout his career, Sheriff Talton was honored with numerous awards, including the Golden Eagle Award (2010); the Meritorious Service Master Award (2022); the President's Award from the Georgia Sheriffs Association; the Warner Robins/Houston County Chamber of Commerce Good Government Service Award; the Liberty Bell Award; and was named Sheriff of the Year in 2019.

Sheriff Talton contributed so much to his community and accomplished so much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the Grace of God, and the love and support of his family, to include his late wife of 68 years, Peggy; his devoted children, Carlene Talton, Patty Redmond (Ed), Cully Talton, and Neal Talton (Ginger); grandchildren, Kitt Orr (Brandon), Lindsey Farrar, Tal Talton (Amanda), Sydney Morstad; along with 10 great-grandchildren.

Sir Winston Churchill often said: "You make your living by what you get; you make your life by what you give." Sheriff Talton gave so much to so many for so long. His over 50 years of servant leadership on behalf of the people of Houston County has left his community stronger, more prosperous, and more secure. Truly, the world is a better place because Sheriff Henry Cullen Talton, Jr. passed this way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian; and me, along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's Second District, in celebrating the life of Sheriff Henry Cullen Talton, Jr. We extend our deepest condolences to his family, friends, loved ones and all who mourn his loss. We pray that they all will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

RECOGNIZING MARTIN COUNTY  
HOSPITAL DISTRICT IN STANTON,  
TEXAS

**HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I often refer to West Texas as the Food, Fuel, and Fiber Capital of the World—where our hardworking cowboys and plowboys feed, power, and clothe this great country and the entire world. However, the greatest contribution we make as a community is not our ag and energy product. It's our people and their values of hard work, faith, and love of neighbor—exemplified in Stanton, Texas, by Martin County Hospital District.

Despite being a small community of about 3,000 residents, Stanton boasts an award-winning hospital recently recognized as one of the Top 20 Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs) in 2023 and 2024. With over 1,300 critical access hospitals nationwide, we take great pride in having one of the best for back-to-back years.

I would like to commend Martin County Hospital District CEO Nancy Cooke who said, "Our results as a top patient care hospital means our community can count on us to deliver the services they need now and in the future."

Our great country does not reap the benefits of energy independence and food security without excellent rural health care keeping our hard-working, freedom-loving workers in Rural America healthy and taken care of. Nobody understands this better than Martin County Medical Hospital District.

On behalf of the 19th Congressional District of Texas and untold grateful patients and families, I thank them, God bless them, and go West Texas.

HONORING THE VIETNAM AND KOREAN  
WAR VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Vietnam and Korean War veterans who will travel to Washington, D.C. on October 23, 2024, with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides WWII, Vietnam, and Korean War veterans the opportunity to visit their memorials on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. These memorials were built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who will travel here on October 23 answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the Pacific Asian Theatre to the Korean Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service, and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorials. I am proud to

include in the RECORD the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude:

Robert H. Baron, John E. Barry, Bradley R. Beall, James C. Boland, Kenneth R. Burmeister, Charles L. Cassidy, Patrick J. Clayton, Dean R. Clough, Michael P. Collins, Philip J. Collins, Danny L. Crull, Allan G. Dalgleish, Ronnie L. Dandurand, Dennis W. Desmond, Michael A. Desmond, Larry R. Dodgers, Robert J. Donat, Rocco Esposito, Robert J. Falkman, Stephen R. Farrar, Ambrose A. Fayard, Ronald F. Feltz, Richard K. Finn, Edward B. Fitzpatrick, Dennis A. Fronek, William Frye, Wayne F. Gade, Ralph W. Gault Jr., Robert J. Gault, Roger A. Gault, James A. Germany, Frank E. Gillie Jr., Javier Gonzalez, Jack Gonzalez, Peter D. Gravante, Edward B. Gut, Durwood N. Hafenrichter, William E. Haggerty, James R. Hanson, Spiro S. Hayes, John R. Heckman Jr., David G. Hill, Gregory T. Hill, David O. Howe, Robert D. Jackson, Ronald J. Jerzyk, Everett L. Johnson, Joe W. Johnson, Kenneth J. Johnson, Glenn M. Jones, Herbert B. Joseph, Benjamin Kahn, Terry E. Kaiser, Dale A. Kats, Thaddeus J. Kolke Sr., Louis R. Kollwitz, Alice A. Kowalski, Kenneth W. Krochmal, Robert F. Lewis, Ronald J. Matonovich, James H. McCollum, John A. McCollum, Nathaniel McCoy, Richard M. McGathey, Gordon W. Millerin, John R. Mitchell, Thomas Moritz, John L. Mroz, James T. Mundt, George G. Munley, William J. Nieckula, Howard F. Noey Jr., Edward P. O'Connor, James P. O'Connor, Virgil D. Oostendorp, Thomas R. Osborne Jr., Bernard J. Passananti Jr., Joseph J. Perry Jr., Terry G. Piper, Martin S. Pogvara, Peter P. Pogvara, Alan Potkin, Richard C. Raish, Timothy M. Rehmer, Jaime D. Rivera, Lonnie Satterlee, Neil G. Schilling, Joseph J. Schneider Jr., Edward J. Serafino, Edward W. Seykowski, Terry L. Short, Philip C. Sirotzke, James H. Smalley Jr., Robert C. Smith, Robert L. Smith, John B. Spoor Sr., Michael R. Stark, Rudolf E. Starr, Larry R. Stegall, Martin R. Sterrett, Richard A. Strong, Wayne L. Szara Sr., Gary L. Tate, Daniel N. Thomas, Roger L. Thompson, Linzy Waters II, Thomas J. Weidemann, Steven W. Westerlund, Evan L. Wilson, Paul L. Windish, Michael P. Witte, Donald E. Young, James M. Yunker, Adam W. Yurkiw, Robert R. Zaborowski, and Richard R. Zawislak.

#### HONORING SUE DONAHUE

### HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, I would like to recognize the president of the Arrowhead Republican Women, Sue Donahue.

Sue has distinguished herself by providing exceptional service to the members of this organization, with roots in the West Valley dating back to 1993. As president, Sue has been an advocate for educating members on philosophies of smaller government, reduced taxes, and personal freedoms. The efforts of Sue and the Arrowhead Republican Women have been pivotal to the success of elected officials and candidates in the State of Arizona.

As a member of the Arrowhead Republican Women, I am thankful for Sue's leadership

and dedication to conservative principles. I sincerely appreciate her service to Congressional District 8 and the State of Arizona.

#### APPRECIATING GEORGE SHISSIAS

### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the obituary of George Constantine Shissias clearly presents a loving review of his meaningful achievements for the citizens of the Midlands of South Carolina. In addition to the successes listed, he was a co-founder of the First Tuesday Republican Club of Richland and Lexington Counties, which worked to provide a low-cost Rotary-like opportunity for political involvement. Having lasted for over 50 years, it is now the longest surviving political luncheon in South Carolina.

At the memorial service, Governor Henry McMaster provided heartfelt appreciation of the dynamic couple, George and his wife, State Representative June Shissias. The Governor cited the success of electing Charlie Boineau to the State House in August 1961 as the first Republican legislator of the Twentieth Century. This achievement led to now super Republican majorities in the State House and Senate with all statewide offices, and eight of nine Federal offices held by Republicans.

The following obituary was published upon his death:

George Constantine Shissias, of Columbia, died October 13, 2024. A memorial service will be held at Eastminster Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 20 at 2:00 pm, with a reception to follow. There will be a private interment at Fort Jackson Military Cemetery. Born in Camden, NJ, to immigrant parents, George graduated from Cornell University in 1957 with a degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management. He served in the Army and was honorably discharged as first lieutenant, having run an Officers Club during his military service where he met his future wife June. In 1959 he began his career in hospitality management by accepting a position as manager of Forest Lake Country Club in Columbia. He held that position for 42 years until his retirement in 2001.

George was one of the founders of the Richland County Republican Party. In 1961, George was instrumental in the election of the first Republican candidate to the South Carolina State House of Representatives since Reconstruction. In the early years, victories were few, but George never gave up and worked tirelessly on behalf of Republican candidates to build a two-party system in South Carolina. It was George's grit and determination that contributed to the growth of the Republican Party to dominance in South Carolina, all while managing one of the finest clubs in South Carolina. He was a charter member of the Forest Acres Rotary Club which he served faithfully since 1968.

George was born June 20, 1936 in Camden, NJ, to the late Constantine N. Shissias and the late Alexandra (Kazantzis). He is survived by his wife of 63 years June (Strother), brother Nick Shissias and his wife Sophia, and many wonderful nieces and nephews. Surviving also are sons Charles and his wife Marlo Smith, Alexander and his wife Anne (Abercrombie), and beloved grandchildren Hunter Alexander Shissias, Charles Logan Shissias and Janna Shissias.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to The Tunnels to Towers Foundation or MPN Research Foundation.

#### RECOGNIZING AMOGY FOR SAILING THE WORLD'S FIRST CARBON-FREE AMMONIA-POWERED MARITIME VESSEL

### HON. PATRICK RYAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. RYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary milestone in clean energy innovation achieved by Amogy, a trailblazing company in the sustainable energy sector. On September 22nd, Amogy successfully demonstrated the world's first carbon-free, ammonia-powered maritime vessel on Rondout Creek and the Hudson River, located in my district in New York.

This achievement reflects Amogy's commitment to addressing one of the most pressing challenges of our time—reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the maritime industry. The successful voyage of this vessel marks a historic step forward in the global push to transition to cleaner energy solutions, and it serves as a beacon of what can be achieved when we leverage groundbreaking technology for the good of our planet.

Amogy's innovation lies in its advanced ammonia-to-power platform, which enables the use of ammonia as a renewable, carbon-free fuel. This vessel's demonstration is a tangible example of how we can reimagine existing industries—such as shipping—and move toward a more sustainable future.

Not only is this accomplishment a testament to the technical prowess of the engineers, scientists, and visionaries at Amogy, but it also represents a significant moment for environmental policy and industrial decarbonization. By replacing fossil fuels with alternative, cleaner energy sources like ammonia, we can dramatically reduce emissions in sectors that have historically been difficult to decarbonize.

I would like to commend the entire team at Amogy for their pursuit of innovation and sustainability. Their dedication to pushing the boundaries of clean energy is a vital contribution to the fight against climate change. I would also like to recognize that this historic demonstration took place at Feeney Shipyard, in Kingston, New York, which has long been a hub of maritime activity in the Hudson Valley.

I congratulate Amogy on this monumental achievement and look forward to witnessing the continued advancements the company will bring to the clean energy landscape. It is through the efforts of companies like Amogy that we will continue to make strides toward a more sustainable and resilient future.

#### HONORING MR. MICHAEL PRICE

### HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Michael Price, an outstanding citizen who serves the south San Diego community as a chef and small business owner. Mr.

Price is the proud owner of Chef Budda Blasian Soul Food, a food truck that incorporates the traditions of Soul Food alongside a creative Asian flare to provide a unique culinary experience for its consumers.

During the pandemic, Mr. Price and his wife, Lily Nachampasak, turned their focus to their passion for food and brought their dreams of cooking professionally to life when they started a pop-up kitchen in City Heights. They succeeded not only in supporting their family through this new business venture, but also in enriching our community by providing joy and a flavorful dining experience for all.

Their pop-up kitchen quickly found success, leading to invitations to serve food at music festivals, night markets, and more. Through hard work and determination, they expanded their business and purchased a food truck. Now, Chef Budda Blasian Soul Food is a cherished part of the local food scene and can be found all throughout our communities.

It was great to have been able to meet and speak with Mr. Price about how he built this thriving small business, recognize him for his contributions to the community, and get some delicious fried chicken, shrimp, and catfish and fixings.

Mr. Price's dedication has made our community a better place, and I can't think of a better person to have recognized during National Black Business Month.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE WESTERN CATTLE TRAIL

**HON. RON ESTES**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. ESTES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Western Cattle Trail. The entrepreneurial cattlemen who blazed this new path across the frontier exemplified the American spirit of adventure and freedom.

In the wake of the Civil War, longhorn cattle were running free in Texas, while cities and towns on the East Coast demanded more beef than ever to feed their growing populations. Young cowboys called drovers rode to gather the wild cattle and move them hundreds of miles across the wilderness to northern railroads to meet the demands. Their destinations were railroad towns such as Newton, Wichita, and Caldwell in my district.

In 1874, these cowboys pioneered a new route. It became known as the Western Trail, located west of the existing Shawnee and Chisholm Trails. Cowboys on horseback moved longhorn cattle along the trail through Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, and north to Canada. Over the next several decades, millions of heads of cattle were herded up the trail by these enterprising young Americans.

In addition to providing beef for a growing nation, the Western Trail played a crucial role in moving much-needed breeding stock to ranches in the northern plains and carrying essential meat supplies to Native American tribes across the west. The trail's significant impact on the national economy underscores the importance of cattle routes in the development and history of the United States.

In November, the Western Cattle Trail Association, along with the International Chisholm Trail Association, will be commemorating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Western Trail. Historians, authors, artists, and friends of the Western Trail will gather in Kansas to honor and commemorate the cowboys who made those drives and overcame the dangers of the frontier to deliver their herds to the rest of the country. In so doing, these cowboys became recognized worldwide as symbols of American courage, strength, freedom, and independence. I proudly join those honoring them and this historic milestone in our history.

HONORING PACE NORTH ON THEIR FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate PACE North on their five years of dedicated service to the Northern Michigan Community.

Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly—North is an all-inclusive healthcare plan, which serves primarily as an alternative tailored to individuals' and families' specific needs. Once admitted, an interdisciplinary team works with families to design a plan that works for each person. Once this is done, PACE replaces traditional health coverage such as Medicare and Medicaid to become both provider and caregiver.

Under the leadership of Executive Director Nicole Farkas, PACE North has helped hundreds of seniors navigate the uncertain terrain of living co-dependently, providing top of the line medical care as well as kind and compassionate assistance with day-to-day life.

PACE North has certainly lived up to their core values of Quality Safety, Compassion, Integrity, Collaboration and Community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate PACE North on their five years of dedicated service to the Northern Michigan Community. I wish Director Farkas, Dr. Wilborn and the rest of the team the very best going forward.

RECOGNIZING RETIRED CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT RUDY LOPEZ

**HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize retired Chief Master Sergeant Rudy Lopez for his distinguished military service and commitment to serving Washington's veterans and military families as the Director of the Washington State Veterans Cemetery in Medical Lake, Wash.

Retired CMSgt. Rudy Lopez first entered the Air Force as a pharmacy technician in 1983 where he worked in a variety of settings—from small clinic pharmacies to 50-bed hospital pharmacies—at McClellan Air Force Base and Eglin Air Force Base. During this time in the field, he notably led an Air Force beta test on pharmacy automation that was successfully

implemented throughout the Department of Defense within 3 years of proof of concept.

In 2001, Lopez was selected for promotion to Chief Master Sergeant and transitioned out of pharmacy to serve as a Medical Group Superintendent—a role in which he would later deploy with the 332 Expeditionary Medical Group to Balad Air Base in 2007. CMSgt. Lopez also spent five years serving in a dual capacity as the Air Force Pharmacy Career Field Manager, advising the Air Force Surgeon General on the training, utilization, and career progression for more than 1,300 pharmacy technicians around the world.

In 2013, CMSgt. Lopez ended his illustrious three-decades-long career in Washington's Fifth Congressional District after serving three years as the 92nd Air Refueling Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant at Fairchild Air Force Base. Throughout his decorated career, Lopez earned the Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with an oak leaf cluster, an Iraq Campaign Medal with one service star, and many others.

Shortly after retiring from the Air Force, Rudy joined the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs as Director of the Washington State Veterans Cemetery in Medical Lake. In this role, he is responsible for the strategic planning, coordination, and oversight of administrative and operational functions of the Washington State Veterans Cemeteries Program, which includes cemetery locations across the state. He and his team diligently serve the state's 554,000 veterans by providing more than 900 dignified and honorable interment services to our nation's heroes each year.

He and his team are responsible for playing an active role in the research and recovery of well over 800 unclaimed or abandoned veterans' remains, all of whom receive a long overdue and proper final resting place in recognition of their service to our Nation. As if that weren't enough, retired CMSgt. Lopez also serves as an advisor on veteran's burial benefits state-wide, provides much-needed outreach to communities across Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho, and serves on a number of civic non-profit advisory boards and committees.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for retired CMSgt. Rudy Lopez's continued commitment to serving his country and community here in Eastern Washington. His dedication to honoring our nation's heroes is second to none, so I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing him for his tremendous efforts and celebrating the lasting legacy they will have on the lives he has touched.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF PAMPER ME PINK

**HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pamper Me Pink on their 20th anniversary. Founded in 2004 by Sharon Welch Clark, Pamper Me Pink has grown into a partnership with UVA Health Culpeper Medical Center and has been instrumental in educating the community about cancer and the resources available to those contending with a

diagnosis. Thousands of residents of Culpeper and surrounding communities have benefited from learning about cutting-edge technology, community resources, and support groups that provide assistance to patients and their families.

The Pamper Me Pink Breast Cancer Awareness Fund, a collaborative effort between Pamper Me Pink and UVA Health Culpeper Medical Center, has made a significant difference in Virginians' lives. This fund allows residents of Culpeper, Orange, Madison, and surrounding counties who lack medical insurance or cannot afford breast cancer screening to access a mammogram. The Pamper Me Pink Breast Cancer Awareness Fund has provided more than 700 mammograms, promoting preventive care and early detection. These efforts have saved countless lives.

Sharon Welch Clark has been the driving force behind this initiative for two decades, and I thank her for her partnership and her leadership. Her tireless efforts to support preventive care and community health have made a lasting impact not only on Culpeper, but on communities across our Commonwealth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Sharon Welch Clark and Pamper Me Pink for 20 years of service to our community. Their dedication to education, preventive care, and support for patients and families in the fight against breast cancer is truly commendable. I extend my deepest gratitude and thanks to the Pamper Me Pink team as they continue this important—and critical—work.

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HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTRAL VALLEY BLACK NURSES

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today, we gather to commemorate a remarkable milestone in the field of healthcare and community service—the 50th Anniversary of the Central Valley Black Nurses Association (CVBNA). This historic occasion is a testament to the enduring legacy and unwavering commitment of the CVBNA to improving healthcare access and equity.

Founded in 1973 under the visionary leadership of Dr. Carol Drake, former Dean and Professor of Nursing at Fresno City College, along with other trailblazing founders, Brenda Starks, Odester Tate, Gladys Hollie, Ruth Ann Terry, and Loretta Leach-Scruggs, the CVBNA has consistently exemplified excellence in nursing and community advocacy. In 2016, the CVBNA achieved a significant milestone by becoming an official chapter of the National Black Nursing Association, Inc. (NBNA). Subsequently, on March 24, 2017, the CVBNA was incorporated in the state of California as a non-profit organization, solidifying its commitment to the advancement of healthcare and service to the community.

The CVBNA's mission is both clear and commendable: to investigate, define, and address the healthcare needs of Black Americans and other minorities, striving to ensure healthcare commensurate with that of the larger society. With their profound understanding,

knowledge, interest, concern, and experience, Black nurses in the CVBNA have consistently made a significant impact on the healthcare status of the Black community. One of the hallmarks of the CVBNA is its unwavering commitment to community service. Through voluntary hours, members provide an array of preventative health screenings and health education, encompassing many critical areas. These services are delivered in collaboration with a multitude of community-based partners, including faith-based organizations, civic groups, fraternal organizations, hospitals, and schools of nursing.

The CVBNA's community outreach efforts have left an indelible mark on the Central Valley. During the pandemic, they were on the front lines, providing COVID-19 vaccinations and contributing countless hours to vaccinate thousands of individuals on the westside of Fresno. Their commitment to health education is unwavering, with numerous pop-up events for high blood pressure screening and comprehensive health education in underserved communities. They've also extended their care to homeless students, providing hygiene kits, and expanded their presence to underserved schools. Moreover, they've been mentors and educators, supporting student nurses and tutoring those facing academic challenges.

The vision of the CVBNA extends beyond the present day. Their advocacy efforts are rooted in the promotion of culturally competent, accessible, and affordable healthcare. They ardently champion the professional and educational advancement of ethnic nurses and remain steadfast in educating consumers, healthcare professionals, and policymakers about the unique health challenges faced by ethnic minority populations. Their dedication to developing ethnic minority nurse leaders in areas of health policy, practice, education, and research is unwavering. As we stand on the cusp of the CVBNA's 50th Anniversary, we must recognize and celebrate this momentous occasion. It represents five decades of unwavering dedication, advocacy, and service to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the Central Valley Black Nurses Association. Let us celebrate their legacy and their ongoing commitment to advancing healthcare access and equity for all.

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CELEBRATING 75 YEARS WITH SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sandia National Laboratories (Sandia) which will celebrate 75 years of outstanding innovation and dedication to advancing the frontiers of science and technology today, October 22, 2024.

Sandia was established in 1949 in Albuquerque, New Mexico as a key component of the United States' commitment to developing and maintaining a safe and secure nuclear deterrent. Sandia has since evolved into a premier multidisciplinary research institution dedicated to solving the nation's most challenging problems. The dedicated scientists, engineers

and staff at Sandia have exemplified the highest standards of professionalism and innovation, contributing to the security and well-being of our nation and enhancing the quality of life for people around the world.

In 1956, Sandia opened its second site in California's Livermore Valley, growing from a small group of scientists to what is now over 1,600 staff, along with 300 contractors, postdoctoral fellows, and students, broadening the scope of the work and playing a vital role in Sandia's overall mission. Sandia has fostered a culture of collaboration and excellence, working closely with neighboring Lawrence Livermore National Lab, government agencies, industry partners, and academic institutions to address complex technical challenges and deliver groundbreaking solutions.

Sandia's impact extends beyond their immediate research endeavors, inspiring future generations of scientists and engineers, and playing a pivotal role in shaping the technological landscape of our nation.

For the past 75 years, Sandia has demonstrated unparalleled excellence in engineering, research and development, driving advancements in areas such as renewable energy, cybersecurity, and advanced manufacturing. I join the past and present teams of scientists and supporting staff at Sandia National Laboratories in celebrating the legacy they've created and wish them many more productive years to come.

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RECOGNIZING NATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK OF 2024

**HON. ANDY HARRIS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize all who contribute to Education in anticipation of National Education Week 2024.

American Education Week started as an effort to better generate public support for education as a joint effort between the National Education Association (NEA) and the American Legion. Concerned with as much as 25 percent of World War I draftees being illiterate, the two organizations sought to shine a national light on the need to increase support for education. 103 years later, educators around the country continue this advocacy which I am proud to support.

Maryland's First Congressional district has over 200 schools at all levels of our education system, all of which with a dedicated team of teachers and support staff committed to bringing out the best in our next generation. As we celebrate the upcoming 103rd National Education week between November 18th through November 22nd, let us all take a moment to express our gratitude for their service to our communities.

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HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JAVIER CAVAZOS

**HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor and celebrate the life of Javier Cavazos, a legendary coach and mentor who passed away

on October 12, 2024, at the age of 77. For over five decades, Coach Cavazos devoted his life to enriching the lives of Lansing's youth through his passion for sports, teaching not only the fundamentals of baseball and basketball but also the values of perseverance, respect, and determination. His impact stretched far beyond the playing field, and his legacy will live on through the countless lives he touched.

Born on December 24, 1946, in San Juan, Texas, Javier Cavazos later made Lansing, Michigan, his home. His love for sports and his passion for mentoring began early. His journey started in 1964 when, at just 18 years old, he volunteered to supervise his brother and their friends in an after-school program. That same year, he founded the Northside Athletic and Recreational Club, marking the beginning of an extraordinary coaching career.

By 1972, Cavazos had formed Lansing's original Little League, setting the stage for decades of success in youth baseball. Under his guidance, teams from the Northside Athletic and Recreational Club—later renamed the Capital Area Youth Sports Association in 1990—won numerous state and regional championships. In addition to his success in baseball, Coach Cavazos also coached basketball for nearly 40 years. Throughout his coaching career, he emphasized hard work, accountability, and teamwork, helping his players excel both on and off the field.

Coach Cavazos taught standout athletes such as Baseball Hall of Famer John Smoltz, Michigan State University and Los Angeles Lakers basketball legend Earvin "Magic" Johnson, and many of the Lansing area's girls' basketball stars. His accomplishments earned him induction into both the Michigan Baseball Hall of Fame and the Greater Lansing Sports Hall of Fame, cementing his place as one of the state's most influential figures in sports and highlighting his remarkable impact on the local community.

Beyond his accolades, Javier Cavazos was a mentor and role model who believed in the transformative power of sports to uplift others. He was unwavering in his commitment to the youth under his care, driven not by personal recognition but by his love for the game, the children he coached, and life itself.

As we celebrate Javier Cavazos's life today, it is with great respect and appreciation that I recognize his extraordinary contributions here in the People's House. May his love for others, his dedication to youth sports, and his commitment to teaching some of life's most important lessons continue to inspire future generations.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
FREDERICK BIERMANN

**HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. KEAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the extraordinary life of Frederick Biermann, a man whose legacy of courage, service, and innovation spans continents and generations. Born in Vienna in 1930, Fred and his family fled Nazi-occupied Austria in 1938, eventually finding refuge in the British Mandate for Palestine. At the young age of 15, Fred joined the Haganah, defending his com-

munity from oppression and later serving with distinction in the Israeli Defense Forces during Israel's fight for independence. Fluent in five languages, Fred immigrated to the United States in 1952 and continued his service, eventually rising to the rank of Colonel in both the Israeli Defense Forces and United States Army. His leadership was mirrored by his innovative contributions in the fields of dentistry and medicine, where he pioneered advancements in bridges, implants, and even heart valve technology. A devoted husband to Rose and a loving father to Sharon, Hal, and Wendy, Fred's life was marked by resilience, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to improving and safeguarding the world around him.

It is my privilege to include in the RECORD his name in recognition of a life that truly exemplified service and excellence.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF PENNDEL BOROUGH

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary municipality within my district as it proudly marks the Quasiquicentennial of its inception.

Pennel Borough, nestled in the heart of Bucks County, boasts a rich and storied history that traces back to the early days of English colonization when settlers journeyed with the visionary William Penn to establish Pennsylvania as a beacon of freedom and opportunity. In 1684, a tract of several hundred acres lying east of the Neshaminy Creek was granted by William Penn to Thomas Langhorne, later passing to his son Jeremiah Langhorne. This pristine tract, renowned for its natural beauty and lush landscapes, was aptly named Eden, a testament to the idyllic setting that inspired those early settlers.

The landscape transformed significantly in 1876 with the establishment of the Reading Railroad station which ignited a wave of growth and prosperity, leading to the rapid development of homes and businesses that created a vibrant village atmosphere. In 1899, this community was incorporated as Attleborough, a name that reflected its burgeoning identity. Over the years, as the community evolved and grew, it became known as South Langhorne before officially adopting the name Pennel Borough in 1947—a name that resonates throughout Bucks County today with pride and heritage.

This year, Pennel Borough celebrates an incredible 125 years as a self-governing entity. Situated at a bustling crossroads of highways and rail, it is a vital hub of business and transportation and home to more than 2,500 residents, who embody the spirit of community and resilience. The Borough thrives with a diverse business community, churches, and local organizations that contribute to its rich tapestry of culture and support.

This milestone is more than a celebration of history—it represents the hard work, dedication, and vision of the men and women who have come together over the decades to build and nurture this remarkable community.

As we gather to commemorate this remarkable anniversary, let us not only celebrate the

rich tapestry of Pennel Borough's history but also honor the indomitable spirit of its people. Pennel Borough is a shining example of all that can be achieved when citizens unite with purpose and passion. The next 125 years hold tremendous potential, and I am confident this community will continue to thrive, innovate, and inspire as a cornerstone of our district.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON—CLEAR LAKE

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of Houston—Clear Lake in celebration of its 50th anniversary.

The University of Houston—Clear Lake, also known as UHCL, opened in 1974 to support the aerospace industry near NASA's Johnson Space Center. Five decades later, it has become a vital part of the Southeast Houston community, offering more than ninety undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral degree programs in science, business, education, and the arts. UHCL's physical growth during this time has included the addition of a second campus in Pearland in 2010 and its expansion into a four-year university in 2014, a move that significantly increased the student population. The university's founding emphasis on science and technology has also gone beyond its original purpose to embrace other scientific areas, highlighted by a partnership with the Texas Medical Center that began in 2004.

Over 80,000 alumni have emerged from UHCL, many of whom are leaders in industries critical to our state and nation, including aerospace, healthcare, and education. However, the national recognition UHCL has received has never eclipsed the university's regional focus or its commitment to public service and empowerment of students to give back to their communities.

Throughout its history, UHCL's leadership has worked diligently and harnessed every tool available to support and keep a center for higher education in the Clear Lake area. These leaders have included past presidents Alfred R. Neumann, Tom Stauffer, Glenn Goerke, Bill Staples, and Ira Blake. Since 2021, Dr. Richard Walker has admirably served as the university's sixth president.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent this esteemed institution that has contributed much to the Clear Lake area. Congratulations again to the University of Houston—Clear Lake on half a century of success. God Bless and Go Hawks.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN WEINFURTER

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John Weinfurter and his two decades of service to the House, as well as his continued commitment to this body in his longtime service as president of the House Chiefs of Staff Alumni Association.

John came to D.C. just over 50 years ago from Wisconsin, where he grew up in a suburb of Milwaukee, the oldest of nine kids. Shortly after earning his undergraduate degree at Marquette University, he moved to Washington and started work at the Democratic National Committee and graduate school at Georgetown University. In January of 1977, he joined then-Congressman Joe Moakley's office as press secretary, but very shortly, at the age of 28, he became Mr. Moakley's chief of staff in what was his third term in the House.

John went on to dedicate 20 years of his career to working for Congressman Moakley and the people of Massachusetts. Over the course of those two decades, John guided Mr. Moakley's office as Moakley took on growing responsibility, serving as a whip for Speaker Tip O'Neill, as chair of the Democratic Personnel Committee, as a member of the Steering and Policy Committee, and eventually, Chairman of the House Rules Committee. Through all these experiences, John got an inside view of the close bonds that Rep. Moakley built with his fellow House members, on both sides of the aisle, and the way that the House worked in a different era.

Later, John served as the President and CEO of the Congressional Economic Leadership Institute (CELI). CELI was a bipartisan educational foundation designed to acquaint Members of Congress, their staff, and corporate executives with emerging economic issues. During his tenure at CELI, John coordinated more than 200 sessions in the U.S. Senate and House, and brought CEOs, foreign heads of state, parliamentary delegations, authors, economists, cabinet secretaries, and regulatory agency leadership together in forums on economic growth and productivity.

He later worked in government relations, joining Capstone National Partners in 2016, a government affairs and public policy firm with offices in Milwaukee and Washington, D.C.—a move that has now allowed him to take his journey full circle, home to Wisconsin to live near his sisters in Milwaukee.

Working in this body for decades, one comes to understand the importance of building strong relationships with those who have the privilege of serving in it alongside you—and that goes for staff as well as Members. We all serve for the good of the American people, but also for the good of this institution. John understood that during his time here. I know that is why when he left, he chose to continue that effort through his work with the House Chiefs of Staff Alumni Association—an Alumni-driven educational and professional organization that brings together former and current House Chiefs of Staff for mentorship, networking events and presentations on current events and an annual reception in honor of the current House Chiefs who serve our offices.

It is no surprise that John provided dynamic leadership for the group. As president, he took the lead in securing speakers for joint lunches held with members of the current House Chiefs of Staff Association. These included Supreme Court justices such as Elena Kagan, Antonin Scalia and Stephen Breyer, leading media figures, journalists, and former Members of Congress. In addition, he specialized in making receptions and dinners come together for current and former House chiefs at embassies across D.C., including the Canadian, German, French, Irish, Belgian, Finnish and Thai embassies, among others.

Last year, the House Chiefs of Staff Alumni Association celebrated its 35th anniversary, and acknowledged John for being the longest-serving president of the organization—having served for nearly half of those 35 years. In doing so, John took on the title “president emeritus,” having carried the organization through COVID shutdowns, and handing it over to the next leaders to keep its long tradition alive.

Mr. Speaker, John is a great man, but he is also a fundamentally good guy who I and so many others are privileged to call a friend and mentor. I want to thank him for his incredible service to this institution, for his work to strengthen our country and strengthen our community here on the Hill, and for his years of friendship and leadership through the House Chiefs of Staff Alumni Association.

HONORING BARBARA SCHAFFER  
FOR HER INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ELM  
SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, tonight, members of New Haven's vibrant arts community have gathered for the Elm Shakespeare Company's annual gala—an event which both celebrates the past success of the organization and looks ahead as they announce plans for their next season. As part of this year's gala, Elm Shakespeare will also honor the invaluable contributions of the remarkable Barbara Schaffer, who recently stepped down from her 25-year role as Development Director for the organization. Throughout her time with Elm Shakespeare, Barbara's passion for the arts, tenacity, and dedication enabled the Company to thrive, cementing its place as one of our community's most beloved cultural institutions.

Barbara began her professional career with Chase Bank, working in offices in both New York and London. When she left the finance industry, it was to pursue a path in the non-profit sector, becoming the Executive Director of High Hopes, a therapeutic riding program serving individuals with emotional health challenges, learning or developmental disabilities, and other neurodivergent challenges. While Barbara was proud of the work she was doing with High Hopes, in March of 1998, she found her true calling when she accepted a role at Elm Shakespeare Company.

Elm Shakespeare was only in its third season of Shakespeare in the Park when Barbara joined the organization. Over the course of the following 25 years, Barbara's incredible talent, commitment, and leadership were instrumental in growing the organization into the beloved and respected arts program it is today. Barbara spearheaded fundraising campaigns, cultivated community and corporate sponsorships, and forged key partnerships with the National Endowment of the Arts as well as Connecticut Humanities. Barbara developed Elm Shakespeare's partnership with Southern Connecticut State University, a relationship which has led to the Company becoming the University's Theater in Residence. In fact, it was Barbara who launched Elm Shakespeare's annual gala and auction which has

not only become a successful fundraiser but a cherished event for New Haven's arts community.

I, like so many others gathered this evening, count myself fortunate to be able to call Barbara my friend. She has an extraordinary depth of energy, passion, and commitment. “Tapestry” is the theme of tonight's event, and it could not be a more fitting tribute to the woman whose passion and dedication has enabled the Elm Shakespeare Company to weave the magic of live theater throughout our community. She has helped shape Elm Shakespeare Company into the wonderful organization it is today, leaving an indelible mark not only on Elm Shakespeare but on the New Haven arts community as well.

I am honored to stand today and extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to my good friend, Barbara Schaffer, for her good work and invaluable contributions to the Elm Shakespeare Company. All the better for her remarkable effort, we are so fortunate that she continues to be such a strong supporter of the New Haven arts community. While her retirement marks the end of an era, I wish Barbara and her husband, Michael, the very best as they enjoy this new life chapter.

HONORING SUE HARRISON

**HON. DEBBIE LESKO**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize Sue Harrison, the former President of the Pebble Creek Republican Club.

Sue has distinguished herself by providing exceptional service to the residents of the Pebble Creek area of Goodyear, Arizona. Sue has worked tirelessly to educate, train, and inspire the next generation of citizens through civic engagement.

The efforts of Sue and the Pebble Creek Republican Club have been pivotal to the success of elected officials and candidates in the Phoenix West Valley.

I am thankful for Sue's leadership and dedication to conservative principles. I sincerely appreciate her service to the 8th Congressional District and the State of Arizona.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT  
OF WILLIAM “BILL” TEAGUE

**HON. RAUL RUIZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a remarkable individual whose dedication and service to our communities has spanned nearly seven decades—Mr. William “Bill” Teague. As he embarks on his well-deserved retirement, I want to express my deepest gratitude for his unwavering commitment to the residents of Indio, California and the Coachella Valley.

Bill's journey with the Valley Sanitary District began in 1951 when he was hired as a Plant Operator. Over the next 34 years, he rose

through the ranks to become the General Manager, a position he held for 28 years. His leadership not only enhanced our wastewater management but also set a standard for excellence that continues to benefit our community today.

Bill retired as an employee of Valley Sanitary District in 1985, but his passion soon brought him back. In 1991, Bill was elected to the Valley Sanitary District Board of Directors, where he has served tirelessly for over 33 years, including two decades as President from 1992–2011. His contributions have been invaluable, ensuring that our local water resources are managed with care and innovation. Bill also served on the East Valley Reclamation Authority, taking on various leadership roles, including President and Treasurer, further demonstrating his commitment to environmental stewardship.

Throughout his career, Bill has received numerous accolades, including the prestigious Wm. D. Hatfield Award and recognition from both the Santa Ana Basin and Colorado River Basin for his significant contributions to the wastewater industry. His work with the California Water Pollution Control Agency and other organizations underscores his passion for public service and community improvement.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Bill has actively engaged with various community organizations, from the Indio Chamber of Commerce to the Coachella Valley Boys Club, always seeking to uplift those around him. His service on multiple committees and boards reflects his dedication to fostering a better community for all.

As Bill retires from the Board of Directors in December 2024, we celebrate not only his professional achievements but also the lasting impact he has made on the lives of countless individuals in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, let us all join in recognizing Bill Teague's outstanding contributions to our community and extend our heartfelt gratitude for his years of dedicated service. On behalf of California's 25th Congressional District, we wish him all the best in his retirement, knowing that he leaves behind a foundation of excellence that will inspire future leaders.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GREGORY  
"DON" HUNSUCKER

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gregory "Don" Hunsucker, a beloved husband, brother, father, and leader.

Born on August 29, 1947, Gregory was one of two sons born to Gragrie and Jolene (Frazier) Hunsucker. Growing up, Don learned lessons such as to always fight for what is right, to help those who can't help themselves, and to never give up which served him well when doctors told him he would never walk again due to an accident he sustained while riding a horse at Church camp. True to his virtues, Don not only walked again but went on to pursue his athletic aspirations at Parlier High school and even college after.

Parlier High is also where Don met the love of his life, Linda Mae, who he described as

the prettiest girl he ever saw. Lucky for him, her devotion matched his infatuation and the two shared a bond for the next 55 years, dedicating their lives to their greatest gifts, Jerry and Michelle. As a husband and father, Mr. Hunsucker cherished every moment with his family. Whether it was dressing up as Santa on Christmas or teaching them how to throw a football, he always made sure to not just tell them he loved them but showed them as well.

In 1971, Don decided to join the fight of the labor movement and began serving as a Special Representative and Organizer for the Retail Clerks International Association. Eventually, he became the Union Representative for the Retail Clerks Local 1288, and following the merger of several unions he was elected as the President—Chief Executive Officer of the United Food and Commercial Workers, Local 1288. As the youngest person to ever be elected President of a local union, Mr. Hunsucker was fearless in his struggle to advocate for his members but always managed to conduct himself with respect when interacting with others. Whether it was at the negotiating table or heading a picket line, Don always put his members first which grew tenfold by the time he retired in 2007.

Throughout his distinguished career, he also held many titles in other organizations such as Vice President of the California Federation of Labor, Chair of the Northern California Caucus, Trustee of the Northern California Joint Pension Fund, President of the Fresno-Madera-Tulare-Kings Counties Central Labor Council, and Vice President of the Fresno Area Coalition of Organized Labor. Even after his retirement, Mr. Hunsucker continued to help and honor workers of the Central Valley by becoming President of the UFCW Local 1288 Retiree's Club where he was instrumental in founding Union Park, and Workers Memorial Foundation, Inc. For all of these efforts and more, Don was named Labor Leader of the Year three times in his lifetime.

In addition to his commitment to labor, Don was extremely involved within his community as well. For example, he helped raise money for the Cancer Society, Leukemia Society, Muscular Dystrophy and the Fresno State Boosters Club. He also served as a board member for several organizations including United Way, the Easter Seal Society, and the City of Fresno's Bid Compliance Committee. Don truly did it all and was more than deserving of all the recognition he received, including the Key to the City of Fresno as well as the City of Parlier.

Despite his countless achievements, Don always remained true to the virtues he learned as a child and committed his life to fighting for what he felt was right. He was a leader of the community and his willingness to stand up for others was admired by many. Although his love and thoughtfulness will be missed greatly by those fortunate to know him, his legacy will live on through the love of his life, Linda Mae, and their greatest gifts, Michelle and Jerry.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Gregory "Don" Hunsucker for his contributions to labor and the community. May we continue to be inspired by his story.

HONORING THE LIFE OF POLICE  
CHIEF HARRY HASKINS

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Harry Haskins, Jr., who passed away on September 1, at the age of 87. Mr. Haskins dedicated his life to law enforcement and the well-being of Virginians.

Mr. Haskins was born in Clifton Forge, Virginia on October 8, 1936. He graduated from the old Clifton Forge High School. He later earned an Associate's degree from Virginia Western Community College and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Roanoke College.

His service to law enforcement began in 1958 as a trooper with Virginia State Police, where he dedicated 16 years of his career.

In 1974, he became a Special Agent with the U.S. Forest Service, before accepting a position as Chief of Police for the City of Salem in 1975.

As Chief of Police, Mr. Haskins excelled at his job and became a fixture in the Salem community. His contributions to Salem's police force included establishing the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program.

Mr. Haskins was a founding member of the Cardinal Criminal Justice Academy, serving as Chairman of the Governing Council for 10 years. His experience on the Executive Committee of the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police, which included a stint as President, allowed him to advocate for law enforcement officials and improve department practices.

His outstanding service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and City of Salem would last two decades until his retirement at the end of 1995.

The City of Salem elected Mr. Haskins in 1996 to serve on City Council. I worked with Mr. Haskins during his time as Chief of Police and as a member of Salem City Council. He was a classic southern gentleman, and it was an honor to know him.

The recognition of Mr. Haskins' character and accomplishments is evident. He received in 1996 the Roanoke College Medal, the highest honor bestowed on Roanoke College alumni who best exemplify the ideals of leadership, integrity and citizenship that Maroons hold dear. He also received the Boy Scouts of America Silver Beaver Award.

He is survived by his loving wife, Judith Barrett Haskins; daughters and husbands, Melanie and Scott Leweke of Blue Ridge, Virginia, and Kathryn and Kevin Glasgow of Georgia; and Nadine Kelley of Roanoke, mother of his children. Also surviving are stepchildren, Will Abernethy of Roanoke, Nathan and Julie Abernethy of Roanoke, Whitney Miller of Dillwyn, and Steve Wilson and Ken Wilson. Surviving grandchildren are Greg and Sam Glasgow, Emma and Mary Leweke, and step-grandchildren Kaylee and Rachel Goin, Elijah, Nora and Isaac Abernethy.

The City of Salem and the law enforcement community is forever grateful to Chief Haskins, the professionalism he embodied during his law enforcement career, and his dedication to the safety and well-being of the people of Salem.

RECOGNIZING TAMARA  
HENDERSON

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**  
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor Ms. Tamara W. Henderson, the Headquarters Training and Doctrine Command G8 (Resource Management) Director of Finance and Accounting and Financial Management Officer, who is retiring after 42 years in Civilian Federal Service.

Ms. Henderson earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing and Management from Longwood University. Following her time at Longwood, she went on to earn her Master of Business Administration in Public Administration from Old Dominion University. Ms. Henderson has spent her entire career under the TRADOC Command at both Ft. Monroe and Ft. Eustis. She gained valuable experience in installation Finance as a student trainee in the Fellowship Program, held various accounting positions, and served as TRADOC G8's Supervisory Systems Accountant prior to her assignment as Director.

As Director, she provided oversight in fielding, sustainment, training, and help desk support for the Army's financial systems for over 1600 end users across the command in the execution of a \$5 billion annual operating budget. Ms. Henderson also directed the TRADOC Risk Management and Internal Control Program. She ensured sound fiscal compliance and safeguarded government resources against fraud, waste, and misuse as manager of the Anti-deficiency Act prevention/reporting program.

Ms. Henderson holds a Level III DoD Financial Management Certification. She has earned many significant awards and honors throughout her 42-year career, including 2 Civilian Service Achievement Medals and The American Society of Military Comptrollers Award for Meritorious Performance in Accounting and Finance. She also received a Letter of Appreciation from the Secretary of the Army.

Our great nation is not able to function properly without the work of people like Tamara Henderson. Few people have dedicated their entire career to Civilian Federal Service, and it is my great pleasure to offer my own congratulations for Ms. Henderson on the happy occasion of her retirement after 42 years of service to the United States. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the dedicated career of Tamara Henderson.

RECOGNIZING DAVID BAKER'S  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO SCIENCE

**HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL**  
OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. David Baker on winning the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. The Nobel Prize award recognizes Dr. Baker's tremendous achievement in utilizing computational protein design to turn amino acids into proteins. He has made significant strides in the field of bio-

chemistry through his groundbreaking research and has trailblazed various methods to build new proteins.

Dr. Baker is currently a Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Washington in Seattle. He is the eighth University of Washington faculty member to receive a Nobel Prize. Dr. Baker's research has been described as visionary. His lab pioneered the field by developing much of the world's most popular and effective software for computational protein design. Dr. Baker's research has helped analyze database information about existing proteins to develop new proteins that do not exist in nature.

His success has allowed for the creation of novel proteins to tackle some of the greatest challenges in medicine, technology, and sustainability. He has deepened scientific understanding of protein prediction and made immense contributions to biochemistry research. Dr. Baker's career has been remarkable—to date, he has published more than 640 peer-reviewed research papers, been awarded more than 100 patents, and co-founded 21 biotechnology companies.

I was proud to secure \$550,000 for the Institute for Protein Design at the University of Washington where Dr. Baker's lab is housed. I am committed to ensuring that Washington's 7th Congressional District remains a hub for science and innovation. Scientists like Dr. Baker are at the forefront of innovation and must have the resources to continue to change our understanding of the world.

On behalf of Washington's 7th Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Dr. David Baker on receiving the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. I am so proud to recognize his tremendous contributions to science and innovation.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF MYRA BUSHARD

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the retirement of Myra Bushard, Executive Assistant to the City Manager in the City of Anniston.

Myra was born on August 24, 1962, to Reverend S.E. and Lousie Dulaney and grew up in the Blue Mountain area as the youngest of seven siblings. She graduated from Saks High School and then New World Business College in Anniston in the Executive Secretarial Program in 1981. She worked as secretary to the President and Vice President at Fort McClellan Credit Union. From 1986 through 1993, she worked in Birmingham at the Birmingham Credit Union, then worked as receptionist and Administrative Assistant at the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce from 1993 through 1995. In 1995, She worked as Trust Operations Officer at SouthTrust Bank Trust Department for 10 years.

Myra has served in her role with the City of Anniston since February 28, 2005. She has served under four Administrations including Mayor Chip Howell, Mayor Gene Robinson, Mayor Vaughn Stewart and Mayor Jack Draper. She has served many City Managers in-

cluding John Seymour, George Monk, Don Hoyt, Brian Johnson, Kent Davis, James Johnson and Steven Folks.

Myra's official retirement date is October 31, 2024, and a reception in her honor will be held on October 30, 2024.

She is married to her husband of over 40 years, Bryan. They are blessed with two children, Jonathan and Alicia, and six grandchildren. Family is everything to Myra.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Myra and thanking her for her service to the City of Anniston. I congratulate Myra.

TRIBUTE TO DEBRA HEMBREE  
LAMBERT

**HON. JAMES COMER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Debra Hembree Lambert on being elected to be the first female Chief Justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court. She has served as a judge for seventeen years, including six years on the Kentucky Supreme Court.

I have had the privilege of getting to know Justice Lambert over the years. I have always admired her commitment to ensuring every person in Kentucky receives the impartial justice they deserve.

During her time on Kentucky's Supreme Court, Justice Lambert has headed the Kentucky Judicial Commission on Mental Health, which works to address Kentuckians' mental health needs, through improvements to the judicial system.

Justice Lambert serves many counties in the 1st Congressional District, and they are served well due to her hard work and dedication on our state's highest court.

I congratulate Justice Lambert on her election to this prestigious position. I am confident that Kentucky will continue to greatly benefit from her leadership.

VETERANS DELIVER LETTERS TO  
U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT OF-  
FICES ACROSS U.S., URGING  
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION OF  
BIDEN ADMINISTRATION'S ARMS  
SHIPMENTS TO ISRAEL

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD the following press release from Veterans For Peace, brought to my attention by Jim Brasile, a constituent and leader of a local chapter of Veterans For Peace who cares passionately about the situation in Gaza. While I may have a difference in opinion with some of the content, I feel that in a democracy, it is important to consider a variety of viewpoints. Mr. Brasile witnessed the violence of war first-hand when he served in Vietnam as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps. Since then, he has been a steadfast advocate against conflict and for non-aggression. I thank Mr. Brasile for his service to our country and commend him for his commitment to peace.

NUMEROUS FEDERAL CRIMINAL STATUTE VIOLATIONS CITED, NO RESPONSE FROM STATE DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR-GENERAL

In sixteen U.S. cities, March 5 through 7, members of Veterans For Peace will hand deliver an exhaustively researched letter to U.S. State Department offices that has gotten no response from the department's Inspector-General since February 11.

The cities are Buffalo, New York, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Portsmouth, NH, Greensboro, NC, Boston, San Diego, Tucson, Chicago, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Bridgeport, CT, Los Angeles, Dallas and Houston.

Josh Paul, former State Department senior official who resigned over weapons shipments to Israel said, "The Secretary and all relevant officials under his purview should take this letter from Veterans For Peace with the utmost seriousness. It is a stark reminder of the importance of abiding by the laws and policies that relate to arms transfers."

The letter from Veterans For Peace alleges violations by U.S. government officials of:

The Conventional Arms Transfer Policy, which prohibits U.S. weapons transfers when it's likely they will be used by Israel to commit genocide; crimes against humanity; and grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions, including attacks intentionally directed against civilian objects or civilians or other serious violations of international humanitarian or human rights law, including serious acts of gender-based violence or serious acts of violence against children. Dozens of authoritative complaints and referrals made by hospital administrators in Gaza, as well as by Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Palestine Authority, South Africa, Turkey, Medicins sans Frontieres, UNRWA, UNICEF, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Norwegian Refugee Council and the World Food Programme, have confirmed that there is an ongoing human rights and humanitarian disaster due to Israel's cutoff of water and electricity, deliberate destruction of sewage infrastructure and delaying of aid shipments by Israeli forces.

The Foreign Assistance Act, which forbids the provision of assistance to a government which "engages in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights." Arms Export Control Act, which says countries that receive U.S. military aid can only use weapons for legitimate self-defense and internal security. Israel's genocidal campaign in Gaza goes way beyond self-defense and internal security.

The U.S. War Crimes Act, which forbids grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions, including willful killing, torture or inhuman treatment, willfully causing great suffering or serious injury to body or health, and unlawful deportation or transfer, perpetrated by the Israeli Occupying Forces.

The Leahy Law, which prohibits the U.S. Government from using funds for assistance to units of foreign security forces where there is credible information implicating that unit in the commission of gross violations of human rights.

The Genocide Convention Implementation Act, which was enacted to implement U.S. obligations under the Genocide Convention, provides for criminal penalties for individuals who commit or incite others to commit genocide.

Mike Ferner, VFP National Director, said, "Just as any good soldier can recognize when they are given an unlawful order, we believe some State Department staff are horrified at the orders they're given and will decide to uphold the law, find the courage to speak out and demand an end to the carnage. VFP enthusiastically supports Josh Paul for what

he did and we believe the public does, too. The IDF has killed over 30,000 Palestinians and is utterly destroying Gaza. These actions amount to genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity, and VFP wants them investigated."

Veterans For Peace has over 100 chapters in the U.S. and since 1985 has exposed the true costs of war and militarism. Its goal is to abolish war as an instrument of national policy.

#### RECOGNIZING FORMER MAYOR CHRISTOPHER BROWN

#### HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Mayor Christopher Brown, a distinguished resident of Dumfries, Virginia, whose dedication and service have profoundly shaped his community.

Mr. Brown's roots run deep in Dumfries, where he has spent his life contributing to the town's growth and prosperity. As a former mayor, Mr. Brown played a pivotal role in shaping Dumfries' future, demonstrating exceptional leadership and vision during his tenure.

Beyond his public service, Mr. Brown continues to be a pillar of the community through his successful accounting firm. Established in 1987, his business has provided professional personal and business tax advice and preparation for more than three decades. His expertise and commitment to supporting local enterprises has been instrumental in fostering economic growth in Dumfries.

Mr. Brown's many contributions—as a lifelong resident, former mayor, and respected business owner—have left an indelible mark on the town. His accounting firm stands as a testament to his enduring commitment to the local business community.

Mr. Brown's unwavering dedication to Dumfries serves as an inspiration to all who strive to make a positive impact on their communities. His work ethic, business acumen, and public service exemplify the values we hold dear as Virginians.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing former Mayor Christopher Brown for his outstanding service and enduring commitment to the Town of Dumfries, Virginia. His legacy as a public servant, business leader, and admired community member will continue to influence and inspire future generations in Virginia.

#### RECOGNIZING RETIRED LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN PHILIP KOWZAN

#### HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Ms. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired Lieutenant Colonel John Philip Kowzan. A native of Spokane, Washington, Phil joined the United States Army in 1961 and selflessly served his Nation for 28 years. During his time in the mili-

tary, he was called upon to serve in Vietnam where he earned the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with 3 bronze service stars, and the Army Commendation Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters.

During his decorated military service, retired LTC Kowzan developed a profound respect for his fellow servicemembers. He saw firsthand the personal sacrifices of life and limb that his brothers and sisters in arms were prepared to make, as well as the invisible scars they would each carry home with them. Phil's profound understanding of these struggles motivated him to dedicate the remainder of his life to honoring those who answered our nation's call to service.

In 2001, Phil was asked to perform Taps in conjunction with a military funeral honors service for a longtime friend and fellow veteran. A musician at heart who played in a number of community bands through the years, he humbly accepted the request as a way of fulfilling the obligation cited by President Abraham Lincoln to "Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause."

Thus began a 23-year long run as a bugler in Eastern Washington.

In 2010, the community's demand for Phil's services grew exponentially when the Washington Department of Veterans Affairs opened the Washington State Veterans Cemetery in Medical Lake, Wash. Without hesitation, Phil volunteered to assist with military funeral honors as one of the facility's three buglers. In the first year alone, he performed more than half of the 350 interments at the cemetery, which now performs more than 900 services annually. As the facility's primary bugler, Phil frequently makes the 46 mile round trip—as often as five times a week—to ensure every veteran receives the honor and recognition of a grateful nation they deserve.

Phil quickly earned a reputation amongst the region's funeral directors and soon began receiving calls to perform at community cemeteries, funeral homes, event halls, and public events across the state.

At 86 years young, Phil still carries the same burning desire he first felt 23 years ago to make sure no servicemember is ever left behind. In total, he has rendered honors for more than 3,000 military funerals in the Spokane area, making him an inspiration to every person he meets. Phil is a decorated veteran, committed public servant, and model citizen. He is simply the very best of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing retired LTC John Philip Kowzan for his more than 50 years of faithful, diligent service to our Nation.

#### HONORING RAY CARLSON AS MARQUETTE COUNTY VETERAN OF THE YEAR

#### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to congratulate Ray Carlson for being named the Marquette County Veteran of the Year. I thank him for his immense sacrifices and love of country. Ray joined the United States Navy

shortly after graduating from Dollar Bay High School in 1969. After completing training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Camp Pendleton, and Coronado, Ray was deployed to Vietnam where he was stationed at TanAn and assigned to a Riverboat base, supporting combat operations throughout Vietnam as a central maintenance hub for U.S. watercraft.

Ray returned home from his service just in time for Thanksgiving in 1971, earning the National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal for his time overseas. He began his civilian career in the Western UP at the White Copper Mine, and upon its closure, obtained a Civil Engineering Degree from Michigan Technological University. Ray went on to lead large civil engineering projects throughout the UP, culminating with the critical HW-58 project in Grand Marais. Ray's emphasis on service above self did not stop there, as he has been incredibly active within the Veteran community, serving in numerous capacities throughout the American Legion, including Post 44 Commander, 12th District Commander, and the 5th Zone Commander—spanning the entire Upper Peninsula over the past 20 years. As one of the most active and dedicated individuals in the region, Ray also serves the community during Bingo at the Jacobetti Home for Veterans and Marquette County Fair, Boys State, and the Post 44 youth raffle. Ray also has even coached baseball for the American Legion teams. Reigniting a passion for the sport he enjoyed in his childhood, Ray's time as a baseball coach has also helped many young men who received his mentorship and guidance—both on and off the field—as they have come through the Legion summer ball program.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Ray Carlson as the Marquette County Veteran of the Year. I thank him for a lifetime of dedicated service and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

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HONORING PAUL CARVER

**HON. DEBBIE LESKO**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my

honor to recognize Paul Carver, the Chairman of Republican Legislative District 2, which is in the north central area of Phoenix and has a population of over 246,000.

As chairman, Paul has worked tirelessly to educate, train, and inspire the next generation of citizens through civic engagement. His efforts to ensure Republicans are elected in Maricopa County have been instrumental to the success of Legislative District 2 and beyond.

I am thankful for Paul's leadership and dedication to conservative principles. I sincerely appreciate his service to the legislative district and to the state of Arizona.

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HONORING THE LEGACY OF  
WILLIAM JOHN VUKOVICH, JR.

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 22, 2024*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, today, we gather to pay tribute to a legendary figure in the world of motorsports, Bill Vukovich, Jr., who recently passed away at the age of 79. Bill Vukovich, Jr., a native of Fresno, California, was not only a highly accomplished racer but also an integral part of a racing dynasty that left an indelible mark on the sport.

Bill Vukovich, Jr. began his racing career in 1965 and continued until 1983 competing in the IndyCar Series and USAC Championship. His talent and determination on the track earned him recognition, including the title of the 1968 Indianapolis 500 Rookie of the Year. Over the years, he participated in the Indy 500, achieving six top-10 finishes, including a memorable second-place finish in 1973.

However, what set the Vukovich family apart was not just individual success but their unique status as a three-generation racing family: Bill Vukovich, Jr., his father Bill Vukovich, Sr., and his son Bill Vukovich, III became the first, three-generation family, to compete in the prestigious Indianapolis 500. Their ascent from being local racing heroes in the heart of the Central Valley to the grandeur of the Indy stage deeply resonated with the local community, providing them with cherished figures to fervently rally behind. Tragically, alongside their triumphs, the Vukovich

family also endured profound losses. Bill Vukovich, Sr., a two-time Indianapolis 500 champion, tragically lost his life in a racing accident in 1955. Bill Vukovich, Jr. was just 11 years old at the time, forever marked by the radio broadcast that informed him of his father's fatal crash. Then, in 1990, another devastating blow struck the family when Bill Vukovich, III lost control of his car during practice at Mesa Marin Raceway in Bakersfield, resulting in a fatal crash. Bill Vukovich, Jr. was 46 when he tragically lost his only son, known affectionately as "Billy."

Reflecting on these unimaginable losses, Bill Vukovich, Jr. once said, "It happened to me twice—the impossible happened twice." The biography of the Vukovich family published in 2012, authored by Bones Bourcier, revealed the profound impact of these tragedies, especially the loss of Billy Vukovich, III, on Bill Vukovich, Jr., describing it as a "total loss of control."

In 1981, Bill Vukovich, Jr. was rightfully inducted into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame, joining his father, who was part of the 1959 induction class, and his son, who was honored in 2007. Throughout his racing career, Bill Vukovich, Jr. participated in 158 races, achieving Top 10 finishes an impressive 85 times. His journey included thrilling Saturday nights at Kearney Bowl, a now-defunct dirt oval track in southwest Fresno. In 2019, the City of Fresno paid tribute to the Vukovich racing legacy by placing a memorial in front of Selland Arena in downtown Fresno. Today, as we remember Bill Vukovich, Jr., we can find solace in the thought that he has found peace and has reunited with his beloved son.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Bill Vukovich, Jr. His contributions to motorsports and the enduring spirit of the Vukovich racing dynasty will forever hold a special place in the heart of our community and the world of racing.